



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE

May 18, 2010

Ms. Susan L Kaufman
Assistant Commissioner
Massachusetts Division of Health Care Finance and Policy
Two Boylston Street, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02116
VIA EMAIL

Dear Ms. Kaufman,

This letter is written in support of your draft regulations for data submission and release (114.5 CMR 21.00 and 114.5 CMR 22.00) for the Massachusetts all payer claims database. Via the Regional All Payer Healthcare Information Council (RAPHIC) and the National Association of Health Data Organizations (NAHDO), Massachusetts has been involved in national discussions and efforts to standardize APCD submission rules. The Massachusetts submission rules have a core focus on privacy and confidentiality consistent with other states.

These rules will benefit policy makers and researchers in Massachusetts, as well as in New Hampshire where we have done cross-border analysis with Maine. The ability to examine cost, quality, and utilization patterns between our two states is important given the amount of patient migration. By adopting rules similar to other states with APCDs, this type of analysis will be possible.

The University and RAPHIC look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Patrick B. Miller, MPH
Research Associate Professor &
Chair, Regional All Payer Healthcare Information Council

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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